

5-19-70

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: John H. Holdridge

SUBJECT: The GVN's Special Pacification Plan

On May 8, President Thieu instructed Prime Minister Khiem to develop by June 1 a Special Pacification and Development Plan to be conducted from July 1 through October. The plan will stress the necessity for all levels of the government to regain the strength and enthusiasm necessary to maintain the initiative in 1970, and will focus on economic and social development. In addition, it will emphasize the Peoples Information Program; active participation by the Peoples Self Defense Force in village and hamlet defense; better coordination between various pacification groups; speedier judicial handling of captured Communist cadre; and special training for technical cadre so that they can assist in motivating the people.

Comment. While in Washington in mid-April, Ambassador Colby made a particular point of briefing us on this plan (see my memo of April 14). It appears that he has been able to keep the GVN on schedule so far.

State Dept. review completed

JHH/WRS/sfp/5-18-70

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